Computerization of Banks

3157. SHRI K.M. KHAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Public Sector and Scheduled Commercial Banks which have computerized their business as per CVC guidelines;

(b) the number of Urban, Semi-urban and rural branches of these banks which have been computerized;

(c) whether Government have earmarked any amount for giving assistance to banks in computerization of their business;

(d) whether computerization has really cut down the time in providing services to customers;

(e) whether there is a general complaint that computerization of banks has not yielded desirable results in providing speedy and efficient services to customers; and

(f) what is Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) to (f) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Direct tax collections

3158. SHRI K.M. KHAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the targets fixed for collection of direct and indirect taxes for the financial year 2001-2002;

(b) whether the targets have been achieved if not, the expected short fall in collection of revenue on account of direct and indirect taxes; and

(c) the steps Government have taken/propose to take to bridge the gap between target and actual collection of revenue;

(d) the details of industries which contributed less to the revenue; and

(e) the steps Government have taken to tone up the tax administration for better compliance and realisation of targets?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN): (a) The targets fixed for major direct and indirect taxes for the year 2001-2002 are as under:

	Revised Estimate (Rs. crore)
Direct Taxes (Corporation & Income Tax)	73497
Indirect Tax (Customs & Central Excise Duties)	117392

(b) As per provisional estimates, the shortfalls in collection on account of direct and indirect taxes are of the order of Rs. 10,000 crores though final figures are yet to be received.

(c) All possible legislative, fiscal and administrative measures are being taken to improve tax collection. These include rationalization of tariff structure; review and withdrawal of tax exemptions, wherever necessary; plugging leakage of revenue through anti-smuggling and anti-evasion measures; expeditious disposal of tax adjudications and appeals; finalisation of provisional assessments; speedy disposal of confiscated or uncleared cargo; simplification of tax collection procedures to improve tax compliance; restructuring of the administrative setup; expediting computerization of operations; and widening of the tax base by bringing services under the tax net.

(d) An analysis of income tax paid by top 100 corporates has indicated that the major industries which have contributed less to direct tax collection are petroleum (34.67% decline in revenue compared to previous year), insurance (11.15%) and fast moving consumer goods (15.46%). The manufacturing sector as a whole contributed 5.71% less revenue than in the previous year. Industry-wise details are not maintained in respect of indirect taxes. The major commodity groups which contributed less to the revenue from customs duty are machinery, petroleum products, chemicals, iron & steel, copper, gold, plastics and motor vehicles and parts. Similarly, the major commodity groups which contributed less excise revenue are machinery, cotton yarn & fabrics, iron and steel and its articles, non ferrous metals, cigarettes, motor vehicles, miscellaneous edible

preparations and aerated & mineral water.

(e) Major steps taken to improve tax administration are given in reply to part (c) above.

Slump in export growth rate

†3159. SHRI BALKAVI BAIRAGI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that for the first time in ten years the export growth rate has reached a negative level due to all round impact of economic slump;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the export growth rate has decreased to 1.86 per cent only as per the latest figures of April-July, 2001-2002 released by Government; and

(c) if so, the effective steps taken by Government to raise the level of export growth rate together with details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) No Sir. Overall exports (in Dollar value terms) during April-February, 2001-2002, the latest period for which trade data has been released by the Government, have registered a marginal growth rate of 0.1 per cent. This is compared to export growth rates of 21.0 per cent in 2000-2001, 10.8 per cent in 1999-2000 and a decline in exports by 5.1 per cent in 1998-1999. A marked deceleration in global demand and a slowdown in the domestic economy have impacted on export growth in 2001-2002.

(b) Export growth during the first four months of 2001-2002, April-July, 2001 had declined by 1.86 per cent. However, as mentioned above, exports have increased marginally by 0.1 per cent during first eleven months, April-February 2001-2002.

(c) Several measures have been adopted by the Government to

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.